

Temporary Nursing Services for the Department of Veterans Affairs
Attachment A – Special Terms & Conditions
RFx: 3000016941

Bid Delivery Instructions for State Procurement:

Bidders are hereby advised that the U.S. Postal Service does not make deliveries to the Office of State Procurement physical location.

Bids may be mailed through the U.S. Postal Service to the Office of State Procurement box at:

Office of State Procurement
PO Box 94095
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095

If delivering by U.S. Postal Service to the P.O. Box listed above, please allow sufficient time for the mail to then be transmitted to the Office of State Procurement. The Office of State Procurement must receive the bid at its physical location by the date and time specified on page one (1) of the Invitation to Bid.

Or bids may be delivered by hand or courier service to the Office of State Procurement physical location as follows:

Office of State Procurement
Claiborne Building, Suite 2-160
1201 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Or bids may also be submitted online by accessing the link on page one (1) of the Invitation to Bid.

Bidder should be aware of security requirements for the Claiborne Building and allow time to be photographed and presented with a temporary identification badge.

Bidder is solely responsible for ensuring that its courier service provider makes inside deliveries to the Office of State Procurement physical location. The Office of State Procurement is not responsible for any delays caused by the bidder's chosen means of bid delivery. Bidder is solely responsible for the timely delivery of its bid. Failure to meet the bid opening date & time shall result in rejection of the bid.

Note: Bidders who choose to respond to this bid online via the vendor portal are encouraged to not submit a written bid as well.

Bidders are hereby advised that due to the nature of the internet, the State of Louisiana cannot guarantee that access to the LaGov or LaPAC websites will be uninterrupted or that e-mails or other electronic transmissions will be sent to you or received by us. The Office of State Procurement is not responsible for any delays caused by the bidder's choice to submit their bid online. Bidder is solely responsible for the timely delivery of its bid. Failure to meet the bid opening date and time shall result in rejection of the bid.

Publicizing awards: In accordance with L.A.C. 34:V.335, unsuccessful bidders will be notified of the award provided that they submit with their bid a self-addressed stamped envelope requesting this information.

****Attention****

Receipt of a solicitation or award cannot be relied upon as an assurance of receiving future solicitations. In order to receive notifications of future solicitations from this office, you must register and enroll in the proper category in LaGov at the following website:

https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/irj/portal/anonymous?guest_user=self_reg

Enrollment in LaGov provides LaPAC email notification of bid opportunities based upon commodities that you select.

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Calendar of Events:

Deadline to receive written inquiries: 06/08/2021

Deadline to answer written inquiries: 06/15/2021

Bid Opening Date and Time: 06/22/2021 @ 10:00 A.M. (Central Time)

NOTE: The State of Louisiana reserves the right to revise this calendar. Revisions before the bid opening date and time, if any, will be formalized by the issuance of an addendum to this ITB.

Bidder Inquiries:

The State shall not and cannot permit an open-ended inquiry period, as this creates an unwarranted delay in the procurement cycle and operations of our agency customers. The State reasonably expects and requires responsible and interested bidders to conduct their in-depth bid review and submit inquiries in a timely manner.

An inquiry period is hereby firmly set for all interested bidders to perform a detailed review of the bid documents and to submit any written inquiries relative thereto. *Without exception*, all inquiries **MUST** be submitted in writing by an authorized representative of the bidder, clearly cross-referenced to the relevant bid section. All inquiries must be received by the Inquiry Deadline date set forth in the Calendar of Events section of this bid. Only those inquiries received by the established deadline shall be considered by the State. Inquiries received after the established deadline shall not be entertained.

Inquiries concerning this bid may be delivered by mail, express courier, e-mail, hand, or fax to:

Office of State Procurement
Attention: Desiree Brown
P. O. Box 94095
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9095

1201 North Third St.
Claiborne Bldg., Suite 2-160
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

E-Mail: desiree.brown2@la.gov

Phone: (225) 342-4831/ Fax: (225) 342-9756

Only the person identified above or their designee has the authority to officially respond to bidder's questions on behalf of the State. Any communications from any other individuals are not binding to the State.

An addendum will be issued and posted at the Office of State Procurement LaPAC* website, to address all inquiries received and any other changes or clarifications to the bid. Thereafter, all bid documents, including but not limited to the specifications, terms, conditions, plans, etc., will stand as written and/or amended by any addendum. No negotiations, decisions, or actions shall be executed by any bidder as a result of any oral discussions with any state employee or state consultant. It is the Bidder's responsibility to check the LaPAC website frequently for any possible addenda that may be issued. The Office of State Procurement is not responsible for a bidder's failure to download any addenda documents required to complete the bid.

*Note: LaPAC is the state's online electronic bid posting and notification system resident on State Procurement's website [<http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/osp/Index.aspx>]. In that LaPAC provides an immediate e-mail notification to subscribing bidders that a solicitation and any subsequent addenda have been let and posted, notice and receipt thereof is considered formally given as of their respective dates of posting.

To receive the email notification, vendors must register in the LaGov portal. Registration is intuitive at the following link: https://lagoverpvendor.doa.louisiana.gov/irj/portal/anonymous?guest_user=self_reg

Help scripts are available on the Office of State Procurement website under vendor center at:

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<https://www.doa.la.gov/pages/OSP/purchasing/vendorcenter.aspx>

Terms and Conditions:

This solicitation contains all terms and conditions with respect to the commodities listed herein. Any vendor contracts, forms, terms, or other materials submitted with bid may cause bid to be rejected.

Vendor's Forms:

The purchase order is the only binding document to be issued against the contract. Signing of vendor's forms is not allowed.

Acceptance:

Unless otherwise specified, bids on this contract will be assumed to be firm for acceptance for a minimum of sixty (60) days. If accepted, prices must be firm for the specified contract period.

Payment:

Payment will be made on the basis of unit price as listed in the contract; such price and payment will constitute full compensation for furnishing and delivering the services. In no case will the state agency refuse to make partial payments to the Contractor although all services have not been performed. This payment in no way relieves the contractor of his responsibility to effect providing the balance of the order. Payment will be to vendor and address as shown on order.

Invoices:

Invoices will be submitted by the contractor to the using agency and the invoice shall refer to the delivery ticket number, delivery date, purchase order number, quantity, unit price, and delivery point. A separate invoice for each order delivered and accepted shall be submitted by the Contractor in duplicate directly to the accounting department of the using agency. Invoices shall show the amount of any cash discount and shall be submitted on the contractor's own invoice form.

Contractual Period:

The State of Louisiana intends to award all items for an initial period, not to exceed twelve (12) months. Delays in awarding, beyond the anticipated starting date, may result in a change in the contract period. If the situation occurs, an award may be made for less than twelve (12) months.

Renewals:

At the option of the State of Louisiana and acceptance by the contractor, the contract may be extended for two (2) additional twelve (12) month periods at the same price, terms and conditions. Total contract time may not exceed thirty-six (36) months.

Quantities:

This is an open-ended requirements contract. Quantities shown are based on the previous contract usage or estimates. Where usage is not available, a quantity of one (1) indicates a lack of history on the item. The successful bidder supply at bid prices actual requirements as ordered whether the total of such requirements is more or less than the quantities shown.

Orders:

DVA is to issue contract purchase orders for the services required, as and when needed.

Electronic Vendor Payment Solution:

In an effort to increase efficiencies and effectiveness as well as be strategic in utilizing technology and resources for the State and Contractor, the State intends to make all payments to Contractors electronically. The LaCarte Procurement Card will be used for purchases of \$5,000 and under, and where feasible, over \$5,000. Contractors will have a choice of receiving electronic payment for all other payments by selecting the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). If you receive an award and do not currently accept the LaCarte card or have not already enrolled in EFT, you will be asked to comply with this request by choosing either the LaCarte Procurement Card and/or EFT. You may indicate your acceptance below.

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The **LaCarte** Procurement Card uses a Visa card platform. Contractors receive payment from state agencies using the card in the same manner as other Visa card purchases. Contractors cannot process payment transactions through the credit card clearinghouse until the purchased products have been shipped or received or the services performed.

For all statewide and agency term contracts:

- Under the LaCarte program, purchase orders are not necessary. Orders must be placed against the net discounted products of the contract. All contract terms and conditions apply to purchases made with LaCarte.
- If a purchase order is not used, the Contractor must keep on file a record of all LaCarte purchases issued against the contract during the contract period. The file must contain the particular item number, quantity, line total and order total. Records of these purchases must be provided to the Office of State Procurement on request.

EFT payments are sent from the State's bank directly to the payee's bank each weekday. The only requirement is that you have an active checking or savings account at a financial institution that can accept Automated Clearing House (ACH) credit files and remittance information electronically. Additional information and an enrollment form is available by contacting the Office of Statewide Reporting & Accounting Policy at DOA-OSRAP-EFT@la.gov.

To facilitate this payment process, you will need to complete and return the EFT enrollment form.

If an award is made to your company, please check which option you will accept or indicate if you are already enrolled.

<u>Payment Type</u>	<u>Will Accept</u>	<u>Already Enrolled</u>
LaCarte	_____	_____
EFT	_____	_____

Printed Name of Individual Authorized

Authorized Signature for payment type chosen

Date

Email address and phone number of authorized individual

Non-Exclusivity Clause:

This agreement is non-exclusive and shall not in any way preclude state agencies from entering into similar agreements and/or arrangements with other vendors or from acquiring similar, equal, or like goods and/or services from other entities or sources.

Termination for Non-Appropriation of Funds:

The continuation of the contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds to fulfill the requirements of the contract by the legislature. If the legislature fails to appropriate sufficient monies to provide for the continuation of a contract or if such appropriation is reduced by the veto of the Governor or by any means provided in the Appropriations Act or Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 to prevent the total appropriations for the year from exceeding revenues for that year or for any other lawful purpose and the effect of such reduction is to provide insufficient monies for the continuation of the contract, the contract shall terminate on the date of the beginning of the first fiscal year for which funds are not appropriated.

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Quantity of Work:

The quantity of staff needed will be determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). In the event a greater or lesser quantity is needed, the right is reserved by the DVA to increase or decrease the amount, at the unit price stated in the bid.

Neither the State nor the DVA obligates itself to contract for or accept more than their actual requirements during the period of the contract, as determined by actual needs and availability of appropriated funds.

Assignment:

Contractor shall not assign any interest in the contract by assignment, transfer, or novation, without prior written consent of the State. This provision shall not be construed to prohibit the contractor from assigning his bank, trust company, or other financial institution any money due or to become due from approved contracts without prior written consent. Notice of any such assignment or transfer shall be furnished promptly to the State.

Use of Agency's Facilities:

Any property of the State furnished to the Contractor shall, unless otherwise provided herein, or approved by the State and/or Agency, be used only for the performance of the contract.

The Contractor shall be responsible for any loss or damage to property of the State and/or State Agency which results from willful misconduct or lack of good faith on the part of the Contractor or which results from the failure on the part of the Contractor to maintain and administer that property in accordance with sound management practices, to ensure that the property will be returned to the State and/or State Agency in like condition, except for normal wear and tear, to that in which it was furnished to the Contractor. Upon the happening of loss, or destruction of, or damage to property of the State, the Contractor shall notify the State thereof and shall take all reasonable steps to protect that property from further damage.

The Contractor shall surrender to the State and/or State Agency all property of the State and/or State Agency prior to settlement upon completion, termination, or cancellation of the contract. All reference to the Contractor under this section shall include any of its employees, agents, or subcontractors.

Waiver:

Waiver of any breach of any term or condition of the contract shall not be deemed a waiver of any prior or subsequent breach. No term or condition of the contract shall be held to be waived, modified or deleted except by the written consent of both parties.

Warranties:

Contractor warrants that all services shall be performed in a workmanlike manner, and according to its current description (including any completion criteria) contained in the contract.

Code of Ethics:

The Contractor acknowledges that Chapter 15 of Title 42 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes (La. R.S. 42:1101 et. seq., Code of Governmental Ethics) applies to the Contracting Party in the performance of services called for in the Contract. The Contractor agrees to immediately notify the State if potential violations of the Code of Governmental Ethics arise at any time during the term of the Contract.

Confidentiality:

The following provision will apply unless the state agency statement of work specifically indicates that all information exchanged will be non-confidential:

All financial, statistical, personal, technical and other data and information relating to the State's operations which are designated confidential by the State and made available to the Contractor in order to carry out the contract, shall be protected by the Contractor from unauthorized use and disclosure through the observance of the same or more effective procedural requirements as are applicable to the State. The identification of all such confidential data and information as well as the State's procedural

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requirements for protection of such data and information from unauthorized use and disclosure shall be provided by the State in writing to the Contractor. If the methods and procedures employed by the Contractor for the protection of the Contractor's data and information are deemed by the State to be adequate for the protection of the State's confidential information, such methods and procedures may be used, with the written consent of the State, to carry out the intent of this paragraph. The Contractor shall not be required under the provisions of this paragraph to keep confidential any data or information, which is or becomes publicly available, is already rightfully in the Contractor's possession, is independently developed by the Contractor outside the scope of the contract, or is rightfully obtained from third parties.

Contract Controversies:

Any claim or controversy arising out of the contract shall be resolved by the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 39:1673.

Right to Audit:

The State Legislative auditors and internal auditors of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Division of Administration, or others so designated by the DOA, shall have the option to audit all accounts directly pertaining to the contract for a period of five (5) years from the date of final payment or as required by applicable State and Federal law. Records shall be made available during normal working hours for this purpose.

Security:

Contractor's personnel will comply with all security regulations in effect at the State's premises, the Information Security Policy at <http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/ots/InformationSecurity.aspx> and externally for materials and property belonging to the State or to the project. Where special security precautions are warranted (e.g., correctional facilities), the State shall provide such procedures to the Contractor, accordingly. Contractor is responsible for promptly reporting to the State any known breach of security.

Commencement of Work:

No work shall be performed by the Contractor and the State shall not be bound until such time as a Contract is fully executed between the State and the Contractor and all required approvals are obtained.

Insurance Requirements for Contractors:

The Contractor shall purchase and maintain for the duration of the contract insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors. The cost of such insurance shall be included in the bidder's pricing.

A. Minimum Scope and Limits of Insurance

1. Workers Compensation

Workers Compensation insurance shall be in compliance with the Workers Compensation law of the State of the Contractor's headquarters. Employers Liability is included with a minimum limit of \$1,000,000 per accident/per disease/per employee. If work is to be performed over water and involves maritime exposure, applicable LHWCA, Jones Act, or other maritime law coverage shall be included. A.M. Best's insurance company rating requirement may be waived for workers compensation coverage only.

2. Commercial General Liability

Commercial General Liability insurance, including Personal and Advertising Injury Liability and Products and Completed Operations, shall have a minimum limit per occurrence of \$1,000,000 and a minimum general aggregate of \$2,000,000. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) Commercial General Liability occurrence coverage form CG 00 01 (current form approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, is to be used in the policy. Claims-made form is unacceptable.

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3. Automobile Liability

Automobile Liability Insurance shall have a minimum combined single limit per occurrence of \$1,000,000. ISO form number CA 00 01 (current form approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, is to be used in the policy. This insurance shall include third-party bodily injury and property damage liability for owned, hired and non-owned automobiles.

B. Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions

Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and accepted by the Agency. The Contractor shall be responsible for all deductibles and self-insured retentions.

C. Other Insurance Provisions

The policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provisions:

1. Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability Coverages

- a. The Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers shall be named as an additional insured as regards negligence by the contractor. ISO Form CG 20 10 (for ongoing work) AND CG 20 37 (for completed work) (current forms approved for use in Louisiana), or equivalent, are to be used when applicable. The coverage shall contain no special limitations on the scope of protection afforded to the Agency.
- b. The Contractor's insurance shall be primary as respects the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers for any and all losses that occur under the contract. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the Agency shall be excess and non-contributory of the Contractor's insurance.

2. Workers Compensation and Employers Liability Coverage

To the fullest extent allowed by law, the insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers for losses arising from work performed by the Contractor for the Agency.

3. All Coverages

- a. All policies must be endorsed to require 30-day written notice of cancellation to the Agency. Ten-day written notice of cancellation is acceptable for non-payment of premium. Notifications shall comply with the standard cancellation provisions in the Contractor's policy. In addition, Contractor is required to notify Agency of policy cancellations or reductions in limits.
- b. The acceptance of the completed work, payment, failure of the Agency to require proof of compliance, or Agency's acceptance of a non-compliant Certificate of Insurance shall not release the Contractor from the obligations of the insurance requirements or indemnification agreement.
- c. The insurance companies issuing the policies shall have no recourse against the Agency for payment of premiums or for assessments under any form of the policies.
- d. Any failure of the Contractor to comply with reporting provisions of the policy shall not affect coverage provided to the Agency, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers.

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D. Acceptability of Insurers

1. All required insurance shall be provided by a company or companies lawfully authorized to do business in the jurisdiction in which the Project is located. Insurance shall be placed with insurers with an A.M. Best's rating of **A-:VI or higher**. This rating requirement may be waived for workers compensation coverage only.
2. If at any time an insurer issuing any such policy does not meet the minimum A.M. Best rating, the Contractor shall obtain a policy with an insurer that meets the A.M. Best rating and shall submit another Certificate of Insurance within 30 days.

E. Verification of Coverage

1. Contractor shall furnish the Agency with Certificates of Insurance reflecting proof of required coverage. The Certificates for each insurance policy are to be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The Certificates are to be received and approved by the Agency before work commences and upon any contract renewal or insurance policy renewal thereafter.
2. The Certificate Holder shall be listed as follows:
State of Louisiana
Office of State Procurement
1201 N. 3rd St, Suite 2-160, Claiborne Bldg., Baton Rouge, LA 70802
3. In addition to the Certificates, Contractor shall submit the declarations page and the cancellation provision for each insurance policy. The Agency reserves the right to request complete certified copies of all required insurance policies at any time.
4. Upon failure of the Contractor to furnish, deliver and maintain such insurance, this contract, at the election of the Agency, may be suspended, discontinued or terminated. Failure of the Contractor to purchase and/or maintain any required insurance shall not relieve the Contractor from any liability or indemnification under the contract.

F. Subcontractors

Contractor shall include all subcontractors as insureds under its policies OR shall be responsible for verifying and maintaining the Certificates provided by each subcontractor. Subcontractors shall be subject to all of the requirements stated herein. The Agency reserves the right to request copies of subcontractor's Certificates at any time.

G. Workers Compensation Indemnity

In the event Contractor is not required to provide or elects not to provide workers compensation coverage, the parties hereby agree that Contractor, its owners, agents and employees will have no cause of action against, and will not assert a claim against, the State of Louisiana, its departments, agencies, agents and employees as an employer, whether pursuant to the Louisiana Workers Compensation Act or otherwise, under any circumstance. The parties also hereby agree that the State of Louisiana, its departments, agencies, agents and employees shall in no circumstance be, or considered as, the employer or statutory employer of Contractor, its owners, agents and employees. The parties further agree that Contractor is a wholly independent contractor and is exclusively responsible for its employees, owners, and agents. Contractor hereby agrees to protect, defend, indemnify and hold the State of Louisiana, its departments, agencies, agents and employees harmless from any such assertion or claim that may arise from the performance of this contract.

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H. Indemnification/Hold Harmless Agreement

1. Contractor agrees to protect, defend, indemnify, save, and hold harmless, the State of Louisiana, all State Departments, Agencies, Boards and Commissions, its officers, agents, servants, employees, and volunteers, from and against any and all claims, damages, expenses, and liability arising out of injury or death to any person or the damage, loss or destruction of any property which may occur, or in any way grow out of, any act or omission of Contractor, its agents, servants, and employees, or any and all costs, expenses and/or attorney fees incurred by Contractor as a result of any claims, demands, suits or causes of action, except those claims, demands, suits, or causes of action arising out of the negligence of the State of Louisiana, all State Departments, Agencies, Boards, Commissions, its officers, agents, servants, employees and volunteers.
2. Contractor agrees to investigate, handle, respond to, provide defense for and defend any such claims, demands, suits, or causes of action at its sole expense and agrees to bear all other costs and expenses related thereto, even if the claims, demands, suits, or causes of action are groundless, false or fraudulent. The State of Louisiana may, but is not required to, consult with the Contractor in the defense of claims, but this shall not affect the Contractor's responsibility for the handling of and expenses for all claims.

Default of Contractor:

Failure to provide requested service within the time specified in the proposal will constitute a default and may cause cancellation of the contract. Where the state has determined the contractor to be in default, the state reserves the right to purchase any or all services covered by the contract on the open market and to charge the contractor with cost in excess of the contract price. Until such assessed charges have been paid, no subsequent bid from the defaulting contractor will be considered.

Fidelity Bond Requirements:

The contractor shall be required to provide Blanket Fidelity Bond Coverage for the State of Louisiana as regards to loss of and loss from damage to covered Property resulting from dishonesty of employees leased by the contractor to the State of Louisiana to perform under a written agreement between the contractor and the State of Louisiana to perform duties related to the conduct, activities, or operations of the State of Louisiana business.

The limit of insurance will be Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$25,000.00) per loss in any one "occurrence."

"Covered Property," means money, securities, and property other than money and securities. "Dishonesty of Employee" means only dishonest acts committed by an "employee", whether identified or not, acting alone or in collusion with other persons with the Manifest intent to:

- (1) Cause you to sustain loss, and also
- (2) Obtain financial benefit (other than employee benefits earned in the normal course of employment, including: salaries, commissions, fees, bonuses, promotions, awards, profit sharing or pensions) for:
 - a) The "employee"; or
 - b) Any person or organization intended by the "employee" to receive that benefit.

"Occurrence" means all loss caused by, or involving one or more "employees", whether the result of a single act or series of acts.

"Employee" includes any natural person leased to you by contractor, under a written agreement between you and the contractor, to perform duties related to the conduct, activities, or operations of your business.

The fidelity bond must be provided within ten (10) working days from request. The Office of State Procurement reserves the right to award to the next lowest responsive, responsible bidder for failure to provide within the time specified, or to reject all bids and re-advertise, whichever is deemed to be in the best interest of the State of Louisiana.

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Method of Award:

Award to be made on an ALL- OR- NONE basis to the overall lowest responsive, responsible bidder meeting specifications. The State reserves the right to reject individual line items from the award.

SCOPE OF WORK

The purpose of this solicitation is to establish an Agency Term Contract to provide Temporary Nursing Services for the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), Northeast Louisiana Veterans Home (NELVH) location in Monroe, LA and Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home (NWL VH) location in Bossier City, LA in accordance with the specifications and conditions set forth herein.

The contractor shall provide the following:

The Northeast Louisiana Veterans Home (NELVH) is a one hundred fifty-six (156)-bed facility. This requires approximately one hundred twenty (120) Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) hours, and eighty (80) Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) hours per week.

The Northwest Louisiana Veterans Home (NWL VH) is a one hundred fifty-six (156)-bed facility. This requires approximately ten (10) Registered Nurse (RN) hours, one hundred fifteen (115) Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) hours, and sixty (60) Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) hours per week.

- The Contractor must employ sufficient staffing and utilize appropriate resources to achieve contractual compliance.
- Registered Nurses (RN), and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) and Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA) licensed or certified by the State of Louisiana to fill specified nursing staffing needs.
- The Contractor must provide qualified nursing staff in sufficient quantity to meet the clinical needs of the residents and to maintain the resources necessary to efficiently and effectively deliver professional nursing care of a quality consistent with the community and the national nursing care standards.
- The Contractor shall uphold the policies and procedures that are congruent with the mission and goals of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), the standards of professional practice, regulatory agencies and applicable Louisiana laws and rules regulating RNs, LPNs and CNAs.
- The contractor shall provide licensed RNs, LPNs and CNAs to fill in for vacant positions, cover absenteeism, and meet the clinical needs of residents during periods of increased acuity. Contractor shall provide supplemental staff within twenty-four (24) hours of request. Required shift hours will be communicated at the time of the staffing request which will include the start and end time. Contract staff must arrive within fifteen (15) minutes of designated shift start time and remain on duty for the duration of the shift.
- The contractor shall verify valid licensure of an RN and/or LPN by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) or the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners (LSBPNE). Provide a valid certification of a CNA through the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) Health Standards Section.

Note: The Director of the Nursing Departments at the locations will approve/accept nursing personnel submitted by contractor

Registered Nurse Minimum Requirements:

Possession of an active, unencumbered, unrestricted and valid Louisiana Registered Nurse license from the LSBN to practice nursing.

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Licensed Practical Nurse Minimum Requirements:

Possession of an active, unencumbered, unrestricted and valid Louisiana Practical Nurse license from the LSBPNE to practice nursing.

Certified Nursing Assistant Minimum Requirements:

Possession of an active Certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant in the State of Louisiana is required, with no adverse findings of abuse, neglect, mistreatment or misappropriation of property placed on Louisiana's Certified Nursing Assistant Registry.

Reporting/Record Keeping Requirements:

The Contractor shall submit itemized (calendar) monthly invoices by the tenth (10th) business day of each month. Ensure that personnel complete an agency approved sign-in/sign-out sheets during work at the locations, which shall be maintained by the Director of Nursing of each the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) locations.

Maintain documentation on file for each employee referred to the locations: license(s), specialty certification, continuing education and documentation of individual professional development, current Tuberculin Skin Test (TBST), and current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification. Documentation shall be available upon request by each location.

Monitoring Plan:

The designated Contract monitor of each of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) locations shall oversee the performance of contracted staff. Performance will be assessed by direct observation of clinical performance, reviewing complaints, reviewing completeness of chart documentation such as medication administration, monthly progress notes, physical assessment, group notes, and treatment planning, and reviewing attendance records.

Liquidated Damages:

In the event the Contractor fails to meet the performance standards specified within the contract, the liquidated damages defined below may be assessed by each of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) locations. If assessed, the liquidated damages will be used to reduce the home's payments to the Contractor or if the liquidated damages exceed amounts due from the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), the Contractor will be required to make cash payments for the amount in excess. The DVA may also delay the assessment of liquidated damages if it is in the best interest of the home to do so. The DVA may give notice to the Contractor of a failure to meet performance standards but delay the assessment of liquidated damages in order to give the Contractor an opportunity to remedy the deficiency; if the Contractor subsequently fails to remedy the deficiency to the satisfaction of the home, the DVA may reassert the assessment of liquidated damages, even following contract termination.

- a. Failure to comply with any of the operations requirements or staffing requirements set forth herein - five hundred dollars (\$500) per occurrence.
- b. Failure to timely fulfill a request for an RN, LPN or CNA to work at the designated facility - five hundred dollars (\$500) per occurrence.
- c. Late submission of invoices beginning ten (10) business days after the stated due date - fifty dollars (\$50) per working day per invoice.
- d. Any work performed by a Contractor provided RN, LPN or CNA that fails to meet the applicable legal standards of nursing practice and results in harm or damage to a patient or to the facility's health care or other operations - five hundred dollars (\$500) per occurrence.